

Bradford 1847

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Box VII, 97. E. Box. 0123

RULES

OF THE

BRADFORD

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE;

OR,

SOCIETY FOR THE DIFFUSION OF

USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

AS REVISED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 26, 1847.

ESTABLISHED MDCCCXXXII.

BRADFORD:

PRINTED FOR THE DIRECTORS, BY J. DALE, IVEGATE.

1847.

RULES.

PREAMBLE.

THE Designation of this Institution shall be "THE BRADFORD MECHANICS' INSTITUTE," or "Society for the Acquisition of Useful Knowledge;" and although this Institution does not profess to assume the character of a religious society, yet it fully recognises the divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, and the important truths of Christianity, as recorded therein:—and it is understood that everything calculated to throw discredit upon these, or to encourage irreligion, immorality, or scepticism, shall be entirely excluded from its discussions and proceedings; and further, that all subjects immediately connected with controversial theology, or party politics, shall also be wholly inadmissible.

§ 1. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS AND REGULATION OF TICKETS.

1. The Society shall consist of Members and Subscribers; Subscribers not being eligible to office, nor persons under 21 years of age entitled to vote. Donors to the amount of Five Guineas, or Contributors of Ten Guineas to the Building Fund, shall be Life Members. Persons making an Entrance Deposit of Ten Shillings, or contributing One Guinea to the Building Fund, and paying Ten Shillings annually, shall be Members. Persons paying Ten Shillings annually, without deposit, shall be Subscribers; and persons paying One Guinea annually, shall be Subscribers, with the right of nominating two youths to the privileges of the Institution. Children of Members and Subscribers above 12, and all other persons above 14 and under 21 years of age, paying Six Shillings annually, shall also be Subscribers.—Females admitted to all the privileges of Subscribers upon payment of Six Shillings per annum.

2. Candidates for admission as Members or Subscribers, on payment of their subscriptions, shall be admitted by either of the Secretaries or the Librarian, subject to confirmation at the next meeting of the committee.—See Rule 8, Section 2.

3. Every person, on admission, shall receive a Copy of the Rules, *gratis*, and a Card, which shall entitle the holder to all the privileges of the Institution. Such Card must not be transferred to another person, under the penalty of one Shilling; but must be produced (if required) before admission to the rooms, or to any of the meetings of the Institution.

4. All SUBSCRIPTIONS shall be paid in advance. Any Member neglecting to pay his Subscriptions within fourteen days after the time it becomes due, shall forfeit Three-pence;—if it remain unpaid for six months, notice shall be given him to that effect by the Librarian; and if it be not paid at the expiration of the following quarter, together with his fines, he shall cease to be a Member. The same regulations (*mutatis mutandis*) shall apply to the Subscribers.

5. Any Member or Subscriber leaving Bradford for a longer time than three months and for a distance of more than five miles, may, by applying to the Librarian be authorised to suspend his payments during his absence. And any subscriber suspending his payments for one quarter or more, without giving one month's notice in writing, previous to the next time his subscription becomes due will not be re-admitted until he has paid all fines and arrears according to the preceding rule or been a non-subscriber for one entire year.

N. B. Any member or subscriber visiting any town more than five miles distant, having its institute connected with the West Riding Union of Mechanics' Institutions, may, on presenting his subscription card, be admitted to all the privileges of subscribers, for any period not exceeding three weeks.—See Rule 9, Section 2.

§ 2. ELECTION AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. The Government of this Institution shall be vested in a Committee consisting of a President, Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, two Secretaries, and seventeen Directors, elected annually by ballot, from the Members generally, who shall continue in office until their successors are appointed. Five shall constitute a quorum, of which number a majority shall always be *Directors*.

2. The Committee shall meet monthly and at such other times as they may appoint, due notice of every meeting being given to them by the Secretaries. All questions in the Committee shall be decided by a show of hands or by ballot, the Chairman having the casting vote.

3. The attendance of the members of the Committee at their Meetings, shall be posted in the Reading Room. And any Director neglecting to attend for three successive months, shall receive notice of such neglect from the Secretaries, and if he fail to attend the next meeting, he shall be considered to have ceased acting, and his place shall be supplied by the Committee.

4. A *Special Meeting* of the Committee may at any time be called by the President, Vice-Presidents, or any three of its members by delivering a written requisition to the Secretaries, signed with their names, and stating the purpose of the meeting.

5. The committee shall keep fair and accurate minutes of their proceedings in a book to be provided for that purpose, which shall be open to the inspection of the members and subscribers for twenty-one days next after the Annual Meeting; they shall have power also to divide themselves into sub-committees for the dispatch of business, whose decisions shall not be final until confirmed by the General Committee.

6. The Committee shall appoint the Librarian, Teachers, and such other officers as shall be necessary for the management of the affairs of the Institution, fix their Salaries, and take such security for the due performance of their respective duties as they shall be advised. They shall also appoint proper times for the delivery of Lectures on such subjects as are connected with the objects of the Institution, and shall have power to contract with any competent person for the delivery of Lectures, and to accept or reject offers of gratuitous Lectures.

7. The Committee may form classes for the teaching of Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar, Drawing, Chemistry, &c. &c. make or confirm all rules and regulations for their management, and fix the contributions of Members and Subscribers who take advantage of them.

8. The Committee may confirm or reject the admissions, made from time to time, of new Members and Subscribers; and shall have power to expel any one for misconduct, their decision being subject to an appeal to the next Annual or Special General Meeting, convened according to Rule 2, Sec. 3. Notice of appeal shall be entered, at least fourteen days previously, in the Proposition Book.

9. The Committee may grant the privilege of Member or Subscriber to strangers for a limited period, and to members of other Institutions not less than 5 miles distant, on terms of reciprocity.

10. The Committee shall incur no expense which the funds of the current year will not cover, without the sanction of a Special General Meeting convened according to Rule 2, Sec. 3. They shall also appoint Auditors from the Members generally, who shall audit the Treasurer's accounts previous to being laid before the Annual Meeting.

11. The Treasurer, (or in his absence one of the Secretaries,) shall receive and pay all Monies, and keep fair and accurate accounts of his receipts and disbursements; he shall not discharge any demands without the sanction of the Committee, nor retain in his hands any sum exceeding twenty pounds; but when the balance in hand exceeds that amount, he shall deposit it to the account of the Institution, in such Bank as the Committee may appoint.

§ 3. GENERAL REGULATIONS OF THE INSTITUTION.

1. The General Annual Meeting shall be held within the month of April, at such time and place as the Committee may appoint, of which ten days' notice shall be given on boards, in the rooms of the Institution. At this meeting, the Committee for the ensuing year shall be elected. The annual accounts shall be laid before the society, and a Report presented by the Committee, of all donations, with the names of the donors; together with such other information on the proceedings and prospects of the Institution as they may deem necessary.

2. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, or any ten Members of the Society, by giving fourteen days' notice, in the mode as directed for the Annual Meeting, stating the object for which it is called.

3. Voting at General Meetings shall be by show of hands, or by ballot, if demanded by two Members; if, upon a division by a show of hands, it appear doubtful which side has the majority, the decision shall be by ballot; and those Members and Subscribers only, shall be entitled to vote at *any* meeting, who give their personal attendance.

4. Members and Subscribers may, by applying to the Librarian, be admitted to any of the classes, on paying the contribution spe-

cified; and shall be at liberty, under the sanction of the Committee, to form themselves into classes for the mutual benefit and improvement of each other.

5. No Member or Subscriber shall be allowed access to the Models and Apparatus belonging to the Institution, without the sanction of the Committee; and any damage which they may sustain, must be made good by the person using them, unless they have been used by the special instruction of the Committee, for the benefit of the Institute.

6. Members and Subscribers shall, under the direction of the Committee, have free admission to the Lectures, Concerts, and other amusements, provided at the expense of the Institution. Admission to Lectures, &c. presented to the Institution, shall be free to the Members and Subscribers, with the privilege of introducing a female, or any individual not resident within three miles of the town of Bradford. The Committee shall, however, have power to limit all free admissions to the time of the commencement of the Lectures, Concerts, &c. and to admit Non-Subscribers on such terms as they may appoint.

7. A Book (to be called the PROPOSITION BOOK) shall be kept in the Institution, in which any Member or Subscriber may enter such remarks, suggestions, or propositions as may be thought proper, for the consideration of the Committee; and in which all propositions for the consideration of General or Annual Meetings shall also be entered at least seven days previously. The signature of the person making such entry must be attached.

8. The Committee may cause the personal property of the Institute to be vested in the hands of Four or more Trustees, to be by them appointed, for the use and benefit of the Members and Subscribers; and no bonus, gift, or division of money, or other effects of the Institution, shall be made unto or between any of the Members and Subscribers. Nor shall the real or personal property of the Institution be alienated, or the funds arising from the sale thereof, be disposed of, except to some Institution or Institutions of a kindred spirit within the Town of Bradford, as the Members and Subscribers shall direct. Nor shall any resolution for discontinuing this Institution, or for disposing of any part of its permanent property exceeding Twenty Pounds in value, be passed, except by nine-tenths of a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose, of which meeting and its object, every Member shall receive seven days' notice in writing, from the Secretaries.

9. No rule shall be repealed or altered, or any new rule adopted, except by two-thirds of a General Annual Meeting, or Special General Meeting; nor shall the present, or the last preceding rule be repealed or altered, except by the consent of nine-tenths of the whole body of Members and Subscribers.

§ 4. REGULATIONS OF THE LIBRARY.

1. The Library shall be open for the exchange of Books, &c. daily (Sundays excepted) from one to five, P.M., and from six to

half-past nine. The Reading Room to be open daily (Sundays excepted) from ten A.M. to ten P.M. No person, other than the Officers of the Institution or Female Members, shall, however, be admitted within the Library.

2. The Committee shall have the sole management of the Library—to order Books, to regulate their issue, or to retain them for consultation in the Reading Room. Any Member or Subscriber may, however, recommend a Work, by entering its title, size, number of volumes, and price, in the Proposition Book. To such entry the person's signature must be attached.

3. No Book shall, until duly entered, be carried out of the Library, under a penalty of Half-a-Crown; and no person, except the Committee, Librarian or his deputy, shall take any volume from the shelves, under the penalty of Sixpence. Before the delivery of any Book, the Subscription Card must be produced, if required by the Librarian.

4. All new Books (except duplicates) shall be kept in the Library one week or longer, at the discretion of the Committee, for the use of the Members and Subscribers visiting the Reading Room. They may, however, be issued at nine o'clock, P.M. subject to a fine of One Shilling, if not returned next day; and of Sixpence, if not returned within one hour of the time of the Library being opened.

5. Persons applying for any Work in great demand, shall, upon giving their names to the Librarian, receive it in regular succession. No Book, within the first year of its circulation, shall, however, be re-entered to the same individual until it shall have been in the Library for one entire week, without being applied for.

6. No person shall receive more than one Book, and a Periodical, from the Library at a time; but when any Work consists of more than one volume two volumes may be taken out (if the Librarian think proper); which, however, must be returned at the expiration of the time allowed for keeping one of the volumes.

7. No person while in arrears, either for subscriptions or fines, shall have any Books from the Library. And any reader losing, defacing, writing in, or materially injuring any volume, must replace it by a new copy. If it be one of a set, the reader shall receive the remaining volumes, and provide an entire new set for the Library.

8. In order to expedite the business of the Library, the Members and Subscribers must select several books from the Catalogue, and write on a slip of paper the numbers affixed to them; give the paper to the Librarian, who will return the first volume that may be found on the shelves. Any person keeping a Book beyond the time specified on its cover, shall forfeit One Penny for each day, till returned. No Book shall be lent out of the house of the person to whom it has been entered, under a penalty of Two Shillings and Sixpence.

9. All Books shall, under a penalty of Sixpence, be returned to the Library for examination, on the Saturday preceding the first whole week in August in each year; and no other shall be issued till the Monday following such whole week.

LIST OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Ackroyd, R. S.
Acworth, Rev. James, A. M.
Aked, Thomas
Armitage, Samuel
Armitage, George

Backhouse, —
Beaumont, Thomas
Brown, Henry
Briggs, Nathaniel
Busfield, Wm. Esq. M. P.
Byles, H. B.

Cheesebrough, William
Clarke, Robert
Clayton, T. G.
Clough, William, *Accountant*
Cooke, John
Cousen, James
Craven, Joseph
Cryer, Watson
Cryer, Willson
Currer, Miss

Dawson, C. H.
Ecroyd, Benjamin
Ellis, James

Farrar, Joseph
Farrar, George Henry
Fison, William
Fison, Cornell
Forbes, Henry
Forster, W. E.
Foster, John

Garnett, James
Garnett, Richard
George, William
Godwin, J. V.

Hailstone, Samuel
Hailstone, Edward
Haigh, George
Haigh, Henry
Hanson, T. H.
Hardcastle, William
Hardy, John, Esq. M. P.
Harland, Edward
Harris, Henry
Harrison, Benjamin
Holmes, Joseph
Horsfall, John Jun.
Hustler, John
Hustler, J. M.

Illingworth, J. A.
Kay, E. C. L. Esq.

Kay, J. C. L.
Keighley, James
Laycock, Samuel
Leach, Robert
Light, John
Lupton, Joshua

Morpeth, Rt. Hon. Lord Vict. M. P.
Margerison, Samuel
Macturk, Wm. M. D.
Metcalf, William
Metcalf, John
Milligan, Robert
Milligan, Harrison
Mills, Thomas
Mitchell, J. H.
Monies, Robert
Murgatroyd, Wm.

Nutter, Joseph
Osborn, George
Oxley, George
Perkins, —
Peckover, Daniel
Plint, Thomas
Priestman, John
Pritchett, J.

Rand, William
Rawson, John
Raper, Joseph
Ripley, Edward
Ripley, Henry
Rochfort, V.
Rogers, George
Russell, John

Salt, Titus
Salt, Edward
Schuster, Samuel
Seeborn, B.
Scott, Rev. Walter
Sichel, E. S.
Sharp, William
Smith, Joseph
Smith, Samuel
Smith, Thomas
Spawforth, Thomas
Stansfield, W. R. C. Esq. M. P.

Taylor, William
Tetley, G. G.
Thomson, A. W.
Turner, George

Wagstaff, J. R.
Woodhead, William
Wyrill, William

Bradford

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LIST OF MEMBERS.

Ackroyd, George
Airton, James
Alderson, George
Atkinson, William

Blackburn, Bailey
Blackburn, W. H.
Brown, Jacob
Brown, George
Buck, Thomas
Byles, William

Carter, John
Child, R. G.
Clough, William, *Bookseller*
Cooper, James A.
Crosland, Robert

Dale, John

Earle, Dr. F.

Farrar, Henry
Farrar, Squire

German, William
Greenwood, Benjamin
Glyde, Rev. Jonathan

Haigh, Thomas
Hanson, James
Harrison, Rev. T.
Harwood, Richard
Hill, John, *Cheapside*.
Holdsworth, William
Holloway, W. H.

Illingworth, Daniel
Illingworth, Booth
Illingworth, Thomas
Jowett, Edmund

Knapton, Jonas

Law, James
Leather, G. H.
Lythall, William

Newton, Joshua
Newton, Charles
Nicholson, John

Parkinson, George

Ramsden, David
Ramsden, John
Rawstorne, W.
Read, Henry
Reece, Charles
Rennie, James
Roe, Benjamin
Rudd, Robert
Ryland, Rev. J. H.

Scott, Walter, Jun.
Simpson, John
Smith, Samuel
Smith, D. H.
Smith, Samuel, *Horton*.
Sprunt, James
Stanfield, Charles
Stephenson, Thomas
Sutcliffe, Robert

Taylor, George
Thwaites, Robinson
Turner, Samuel

Waud, Edward
Wheater, John
Wilkinson, Christopher
Wilson, George
Wilson, Thomas

NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Best, Abraham
Hainsworth, D.
Heron, James
Gellar, W. O.

Laycock, R.
Marshall, William
Riley, Joseph
Steadman, Thomas